

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 18, line 8, please amend the paragraph as follows:

While in the above embodiment, the gratings are formed on one side of the diffraction grating 21, the diffraction grating characteristic on one side may differ from that on the other side as shown in ~~FIG. 2B~~ FIG. 4B. For example, the side 22A may be so designed that, when the light source for DVD is used, the first-order diffraction efficiency is 0 and that, when the light source for CD is used, the first-order diffraction efficiency is 10% and the 0-order diffraction efficiency is 10% and the 0-order diffraction efficiency is 75%. Moreover, the other side 22B may be designed to realize a differential push-pull method of sensing a tracking error sense signal in DVD-RAM recording.